

# GERMAN DEFENSES CRUMBLE BEFORE THE SUDDEN ONSLAUGHTS OF FRENCH TROOPS

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### EVERY FOOT OF FAMOUS CREST WON IN BATTLE

Germans Shut Off From Their Last Look at the Promised Land of France Beyond the Aisne Crest.

Drive Will Go Down in History of the Battle of the Caverns—Outer Line of Defenses of Laon Captured From Enemy.

**PERSHING SEES BATTLE.**  
WITH THE FRENCH ARMIES IN THE FIELD, OCT. 24.—GENERAL PERSHING, COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF THE AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCES, WITNESSED THE GREAT FRENCH VICTORY IN THE BATTLE OF THE CAVERNS.  
TODAY HE PENETRATED DEEP INTO THE CONQUERED ZONE.  
FRENCH TANKS HAD A BRILLIANT SHARE IN THE FRENCH MASTER STROKE ON THE AISNE.  
THEY PARTICIPATED IN MANY OF THE ATTACKS AND TO THEM WAS GIVEN CREDIT FOR THE TAKING OF GUILAIN FARM.

By HENRY WOOD.  
(United Press Staff Correspondent.)  
With the French Armies  
Afield, Oct. 24.—General Pétain's Poilus fought in the air, on the ground and literally and actually far below the ground to achieve their epochal victory of Tuesday morning.

The fight will go down in history as the Battle of the Caverns—the conflict of caverns. The French won their objectives—which means that today they hold every inch of the famous Aisne crest and have shut the Germans off from their last look at the promised land of France beyond the ridge.

**LAST PORTION OF RIDGE.**  
Tuesday's drive was along a front of six miles, on the Allemand-Pantheon front. The French seized the last portion of the Aisne ridge, including the west, a little over two kilometers of the historic "Ladies' way" (Chemin des dames) with its junction on the Brussels highway, which the Germans still held, together with all observatories, notably Fort Malmaison. The French are now masters of every spot on the entire Aisne ridge—from Tauxillon to Craonne—which here before formed the backbone of the German positions. Not only that, but the French now hold the outer line of defenses to Laon.

**BATTLE ON THE SUMMIT.**  
The battle was fought on the summit of this razor back ridge, beyond which, on a plateau half a mile wide, there runs the "Ladies' highway." The northern slope of the ridge was in possession of the Germans and it slid away abruptly into the valley at the Ailette.  
Every inch of these German positions was honeycombed with caverns, tunnels and subterranean quarters. Many were two stories deep, electrically lighted and ventilated. Every one of them the Germans had converted into a veritable underground fortress. Where there was a single tunnel at Cornillet at which place the French first encountered this German rabbit-warren system of defense—there were three; some of them proved almost insurmountable defenses.

**CAVES AND TUNNELS TAKEN.**  
Tuesday's battle involved the capture of a score of these German caves, tunnels and quarries. On the ground held

### NEW OFFENSIVE LAUNCHED AGAINST ITALY

#### Idaho Soldiers in Fighting Trim and Anxious to Leave

Officers and Men of the Former Second Idaho at Camp Greene Have Entered Upon Their New Duties With Zest—Reorganization of Troops Practically Complete and All Officers Assigned to Their Commands.

(Capital News Special Service.)

Camp Greene, Charlotte, N. C., Oct. 24.—The reorganization of the dismembered Second Idaho infantry has been practically completed and with the assignment of surplus officers to commands and the distribution of the battalion now on duty in the northwest through different branches of the division the former Idaho "dough boys" will be ready to "belt" the Kaiser as engineers, artillerymen and machine gun men. Official news of the disorganization of the famous Second caused a feeling of deep regret throughout the regiment, but all were agreed that modern war conditions necessitated the change and that it was "up to" Idaho men to become as efficient in their new roles as they had been in the old.

With this determination officers and men have entered their new duties with keen and enthusiastic interest, and the folks at home may feel assured that when the Forty-first division is called into action in the battle for democracy, Idaho men will be playing men's parts.

#### DISPOSITION OF TROOPS.

The final disposition of the Idaho troops will be as follows: The First battalion consisting of companies A, B, C and D, with headquarters and supply companies to be the 146th field artillery, Colonel Edelblute commanding. E, F, G and H, to 116th engineers, Colonel Walker, commanding. Companies E and F will retain their letter designation, G will be known as D company and H will in all probability become headquarters company. The Third battalion companies, I, K, L and M to the 146th machine gun battalion, Major Lewis commanding. The machine gun company to First company, 147th machine gun battalion, Captain Jeffries retaining command of the company. The medical corps and First Idaho field hospital to the 161st field hospital, Major Conant commanding. Major Clark, former commander of the First Idaho field hospital has been promoted to supervising surgeon of the Forty-first division. Other changes in Idaho company commanders include, Lieutenant Colonel L. W. Patch to Lieutenant Colonel, 146th field artillery; Captain John F. Meyer, of the Third Wyoming, to command company I, Captain M. Roberts, of company D, Second Idaho, to command headquarters company, 146th field artillery; Captain Duval to regimental adjutant, 146th field artillery.

#### LIBERTY LOAN CAMPAIGN.

Interest at Camp Greene during the last week has centered in the second liberty loan campaign. Under the direction of Major Bolles, an aggressive campaign has been conducted, sub-

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#### DEFEND ACTION OF ILLINOIS TROOPS IN RECENT RACE RIOTS

East St. Louis, Ill., Oct. 24.—Interest was manifested today in the congressional inquiry into the race riots of last July when military officers appeared before the committee to defend Illinois troops against charges of inefficiency during the riots.

Adjutant General Dickson and Colonel S. O. Tripp voluntarily appeared at today's hearing. This follows the testimony of a large number of witnesses that the state troops were inefficient in putting down the disturbances here in July when more than 30 persons were killed.

One of the questions to be asked the officers will involve a charge that while more than 100 men were arrested on the night of the riots by Colonel Tripp and a company of guardsmen, they were later released. The military officers will take the stand late today.

Earlier questioning made it apparent the committee is seeking concrete evidence relative to the charge that negroes were imported from the north for East St. Louis industries. This was ascribed as one of the causes of the riots during the heat of the racial trouble here.

John D. Roche, supervisor of the American Steel Foundries, admitted that the influx of negroes had been large enough to attract attention.

#### AMERICAN SHIP REPORTED SUNK WITH LOSS OF 24

Dispatch Received at Buenos Aires From Spain Tells of Sinking of the Santa Elena.

Buenos Aires, Oct. 24.—Sinking of the American steamer Santa Elena, with 24 being lost was reported in dispatches received from Spain today by La Nación. The dispatch says the vessel was sunk near Ferrol and that the captain and one sailor were the sole survivors.

La Nación adds that the Santa Elena was one of the German ships seized by the United States.

The Santa Elena was a steel screw steamer of 7514 tons, owned by the Hamburg-South American line of Hamburg.

As far as available records showed today she was not among the German vessels seized by the United States at the outbreak of the war.

#### NO COAL SHORTAGE CLAIM JOBBERS; NO CAUSE FOR ALARM

Chicago, Oct. 24.—The reported shortage of coal is a myth, according to coal jobbers from all sections of the country, here to effect the permanent organization of the National Coal Jobbers association today.

"There is plenty of coal and if people will only be patient no one will suffer," R. B. Hayer of Cincinnati said. "The only trouble is the demand is abnormal, but the jobbers are confident that Dr. Garfield and the fuel administration will work out the question satisfactorily."

"Ten per cent more coal is being mined in the United States now than a year ago, and the tonnage for the calendar year will show the increase in production," J. D. Cole, of Kansas City declared.

"The country will produce nearly 550,000,000 tons of bituminous and 80,000,000 tons of anthracite coal during 1917, which is an increase of 10 per cent over last year and 20 per cent more than the previous year. These figures are based on the output for the first six months."

Factories running overtime are causing the increased demand but the increased production is sufficient to care for this, jobbers say.

The jobbers are in sympathy with the fuel administration and today pledged their support to the work. They say no action will be taken at the convention here to secure larger profits for themselves, believing this will follow when the coal problem is worked out.

#### GERMANY'S SEVENTH WAR LOAN SUCCESS

Amsterdam, Oct. 24.—Germany is reluctant over success of her seventh war loan, fully subscribed to a total of nearly three and a third billion dollars.

Newspapers received here hail the response to the government appeal for money as renewed evidence of the complete unity between the Kaiser and his people and the unwavering determination of all classes to wage the war to a victorious conclusion.

In the seven war loans to date, Germany has raised approximately \$18,124,000,000.

The amounts and issues to date have been as follows:  
1914, five per cent issued at 97 1/2 for \$1,120,000,000.  
1915, five per cent issued at 98 1/2 for \$2,275,000,000.  
1915, five per cent issued at 99 for \$3,041,000,000.  
1916, five and 4 1/2 per cent issued at 95 to 98 1/2 for \$2,591,500,000.  
1916, five and 4 1/2 per cent issued at 95 to 98 1/2 for \$2,862,500,000.  
1917, five and 4 1/2 per cent issued at 98 for \$3,225,000,000.  
1917, five and 4 1/2 per cent issued at 98 for \$3,107,500,000.

### KAISER AT LAST GOES TO RESCUE CHIEF ALLY

Powerful Offensive Inaugurated by Austrians and Germans on the Italian Front and Gains Claimed.

Claim Made at Berlin That Foremost Italian Positions Near Fitch and on the Bainsizza Plateau Have Been Captured.

London, Oct. 24.—Germany has finally come to Austria's aid and started with her ally of the dual monarchy a powerful offensive along the Italian front, according to both Rome and Berlin dispatches today.

Berlin claimed that German troops had captured foremost Italian positions near Fitch, Tolmino and on the northern Bainsizza plateau. "This is exactly the sector where General Cadorna's great drive in August pressed the Austrians back."

For six weeks or more reports via Switzerland have declared that Emperor Charles was pleading with the Kaiser to lend him aid in opposing the steady Italian advance.

#### GREAT BODIES OF TROOPS MARCHED FOR THE ATTACK.

Rome, Oct. 24.—Austria is starting an offensive, hoping to anticipate the concluding phase of the Italian drive toward Trieste and Ljubljana.

Semi-official advices today indicated that the enemy has massed great numbers of troops recently withdrawn from the Russian front and has managed to persuade Germany to grant her considerable aid in the way of munitions, artillery and aeroplanes.

#### NOTABLES ATTEND HUSTING FUNERAL

Mayville, Wis., Oct. 24.—Officials from Washington, Madison and other parts of the country gathered here today to attend the funeral of United States Senator Paul O. Husting, who was accidentally shot Sunday by his brother, Gustave Husting, while hunting.

The services were held at the home of Mrs. Belle Lamoreaux here. Judge Martin Luick of Juneau, delivered the funeral oration. The services at the grave, in Graceland cemetery, were conducted by Rev. E. B. Dinkley of the Methodist Episcopal church.

#### PLOT TO BALK SALE OF LIBERTY BONDS

St. Louis, Oct. 24.—Federal authorities today were investigating reports of a widespread plot in southern Illinois to balk the sale of liberty loan bonds.

In St. Claire and Washington counties, which are thickly populated with Germans, efforts of this character have been most pronounced.  
E. P. Keeshner, vice president of the Union Trust & Savings bank, East St. Louis, stated that in Washington county, with a population of 20,000, not one bond in the second issue had been sold.

Factory girls, according to reports, were visited by mysterious strangers who declared the bonds were "no good."

#### TWO CARS DRIVEN BY WOMEN COLLIDE

Washington, Oct. 24.—Mrs. W. B. Colver, wife of Federal Trade Commissioner Colver, was knocked unconscious this afternoon when her automobile collided with a motor car driven by Mrs. E. N. Burley, wife of the chairman of the United States shipping board. Four trolley cars figured in the crash also with a total list of 12 persons injured.

Mrs. Colver's injuries are not serious.

#### GRAND JURORS BUY BONDS.

Chicago, Oct. 24.—Deputy United States Marshal Streeter, sold \$5000 worth of liberty bonds to the federal grand jury, while it was in session today.

### FOR THE SOLDIER THE STEEL SWEPT TRENCH IN FRANCE; WHAT FOR YOU?

By CITIZEN SOLDIER NO. 258.

THEY say, who have come back from "Over There," that at night the troubled earth between the lines is carpeted with pain. They say that death rides whistling in every wind, and that the very mists are charged with awful torment. They say that of all things spent and squandered there, young human life is held least dear.

It is not the pleasant prospect for those of us who can feel upon our lips the pressure of our mother's goodbye kiss. But, please God, our love of life is not so prized as love of right. In this renaissance of our country's valor, we who will edge the wedge of her assault, make calm acceptance of its hazards. For us the steel-swept trench, the stifling cold—weariness, hardship, worse. What for YOU?

We shall need food. We shall need care. We shall need clothes for our bodies and weapons for our hands. We shall need terribly and without failure, supplies and equipment in a stream that is constant and never-ending. From you who are our resource and reliance, who are the heart and hope of that humanity for which we smite and strive, must come these things. Buy your country's bonds. Buy them today.

### SERIOUS FREIGHT CAR SHORTAGE IN UNITED STATES

Big Grain Crop, Army Shipments and Business Increase Responsible for the Critical Situation.

Chicago, Oct. 24.—The greatest grain crop in history to move and an army of a million and a half men to feed, combined with the general increase in business has brought about a serious freight car shortage.

The railroads face a shortage today of over 70,000 cars and they are unable to get more. D. L. Forsyth, vice chairman of the Chicago car service committee, told the United Press today.

The government is requiring for army purposes—munitions and ships—the material for making locomotives and freight cars. Also, practically all the cars now being constructed are being sent to France, which is in even greater need of cars than this country.

"The middle west could use 2000 more cars daily," Forsyth said. "Chicago alone could use 1000 more daily, and this is a conservative estimate. Possibly the need is greater."

#### FREIGHT CARS POOLED.

Through the manipulation of the "pooling" system, under the direction of the railroads' war board at Washington, the railroads of the country were enabled to move 25 per cent more traffic, with an increase of only 3 per cent in cars, during the six months just passed. Under the direction of this board, freight cars of 698 railroads are pooled and used wherever needed, which was prohibitive before the war.

"The only remedy for the shortage," says Forsyth, "is for the shippers of the country to co-operate with the railroads in moving along shipments as quickly as possible. Ordering of full carload orders and the immediate releasing of cars is asked of shippers."

#### BRYAN SPEAKS FOR THE DRYS IN OHIO

Zanesville, O., Oct. 24.—A dry Ohio means a dry nation, William J. Bryan told Zanesville today.

"If you give a majority to prohibition in Ohio, it ends the fight in the nation and makes certain the submission of a federal dry amendment at the next session of congress," he said.

Bryan predicted that both parties would adopt dry planks at the next national conventions.

### LAST MINUTE NEWS

#### RUSSIA MIGHT HAVE HAD EARLY PEACE.

Petrograd, Oct. 24.—Peace by Christmas might have been won by Russia, if not for the demoralization of her army, Premier Kerensky told the preliminary parliament today. "If unconscious fanatics, assisted by conscious traitors," said the premier, "had not destroyed the first fruits of democracy's military efforts, we would have had an honorable peace by Christmas."

#### IRISH REVOLT PLOTTER WILL BE PROSECUTED.

New York, Oct. 24.—"General" Liam Mellows, arrested here with Baron Max von Recklinghausen in a raid on alleged Irish revolt plotters, will be prosecuted on a charge of attempting to defraud the United States in applying for a passport, it was learned today. Baron von Recklinghausen is held as an alien enemy. The search for others who are suspected of being implicated in a plot to have another Irish rebellion next Easter is proceeding today.

#### PROPOSE ROOSEVELT FOR RECRUITING OFFICER.

Boston, Oct. 24.—It was stated on good authority here today that the officers of a skeleton division of about 25,000 troops stationed at Camp Barlett, Westfield, Mass., have heartily indorsed a proposition to have Colonel Theodore Roosevelt made chief recruiting officer in a national campaign to bring regiments to full strength. The plan has the approval of the governors of the New England states and they in a body will lay the matter before the war department during a visit to Washington Friday.

#### TO RELIEVE THE FUEL SITUATION IN OHIO.

Washington, Oct. 24.—The fuel administration announced today that on Monday, Oct. 29, the entire production of the bituminous mines of Ohio, western Pennsylvania and Michigan will be turned over for the emergency requirements of the domestic consumers of the state of Ohio. The entire coal car supply of these three states railroad lines will be available except those necessary for the maintenance of the roads themselves.

### GREAT DAY OF EFFORT IN LIBERTY LOAN WORK

Whole Nation Gives Itself Over to the Task of Financing Uncle Sam's Battle Against Kaiserism.

Liberty Bond Christmas Gift Plan Heartily Approved by Government Officials and Others—Ominous Day for Kaiser.

Washington, Oct. 24.—This is Liberty day—on which the government looks to the nation to swell enormously the liberty loan.

With the half way mark reached in the campaign for \$5,000,000,000 subscriptions, hundreds of thousands of volunteer workers are earnestly preaching the doctrine of helping make democracy safe through heavy purchases of liberty bonds.

The United Press idea of a liberty bond Christmas gift became one of the most potent appeals, with the indorsement of the highest government officials and the country's banking and industrial leaders.

#### CHRISTMAS SHOPPING EARLY.

Women were urged by Mrs. McAdoo, wife of the secretary of the treasury, chairman of the woman's liberty loan committee, to do "Your Christmas shopping early by buying a liberty bond."

"The woman who chooses a bond as her Christmas gift," said the president's daughter, "also gives service to help win the war."

From Lord Reading, lord chief justice of England, who is heading the British financial mission in this country, today also came approval from Yuletide liberty bond.

#### FROM LORD READING.

Lord Reading said through the United Press: "A triumphant over-subscription of this liberty loan would be the best answer to the Kaiser's derision of the power of the United States to wage effective war."

"A Christmas gift of a liberty bond will help not only the recipient but the shell swept soldiers in the trenches." Secretary McAdoo who is emphasizing the Christmas bond in all his speeches, challenged the country to "make this liberty day an ominous one for the Kaiser."

"Let us make it the beginning of the end of military despotism and inhuman warfare. Today the American public is on trial."

#### CHICAGO HAS PASSED ITS MINIMUM QUOTA

Chicago, Oct. 24.—Chicago declared a half holiday today to enable its citizens to do their share in the payment of the second premium on Uncle Sam's life insurance—the second liberty loan. Schools, industrial plants, city and federal officers and the board of trade will be closed at noon that everyone may unite in boosting Chicago's quota by at least \$50,000,000.

The city already has passed its minimum of \$108,000,000 and was expected to be within striking distance of its maximum, \$180,950,000, by night.

To reach the federal reserve district's maximum quota of \$700,000,000, more than half that amount must be subscribed in four days. The campaign committee was optimistic on raising \$200,000,000 of this amount today.

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**WEATHER**  
WARMER FAIR RAIN COOLER  
WEATHER

Forecast for Boise and vicinity: PROBABLY RAIN TONIGHT AND THURSDAY; COLDER.  
For Idaho: Tonight and Thursday, probably rain; colder.  
Highest temperature yesterday, 64; lowest temperature this morning, 41; mean temperature yesterday, 52.