

1—German tank put out of commission and captured by the allies during the Marne offensive. 2—Painting American wounded on board a hospital train in France. 3—American sailor proudly escorting German U-boat prisoner along the deck of a destroyer.

NEWS REVIEW OF THE PAST WEEK

Germans Push South Between Montdidier and Noyon But Again Are Checked.

BLOODIEST FIGHTS OF WAR

Americans Drive Huns Out of Belleau Wood—False Statements by Prussian Minister of War—Gallant Exploit of Italian Torpedo Boats.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD.
Aiming at Compiègne and Estree St. Denis, with the evident intention of forcing the French out of the Noyon salient, the armies of Crown Prince Ruprecht of Bavaria, under the immediate command of General von Hutier, started a great drive southward between Montdidier and Noyon on Sunday. The result was the most desperate and bloodiest fighting of the entire war, for the French resisted fiercely and slaughtered the enemy in tremendous numbers. By sheer weight the Germans were able to push forward down the valley of the Matz for several miles, making their greatest advance to the southwest, but by Tuesday they were brought almost to a standstill. Then General Foch struck back with force and on the west side of the enemy salient drove the Huns to the east, retaking Courcelles, Le Fretay, Mery, Belleau wood and other strong positions and reaching the edge of St. Maur. The defense of Courcelles, important because of its commanding heights, was especially heroic, the Germans trying by every means to gain and hold the village, in vain.

On the east of the salient the Germans, by tremendous efforts, were able to force their way past Ribecourt, and by Tuesday they had reached the Oise at Machelmont and Bethancourt, the latter village being the scene of especially sanguinary fighting. This so threatened the French troops in the thin wedge extending toward Noyon that in the night they were quietly withdrawn without the knowledge of the enemy, and the line, thus shortened and straightened, thereafter was held. In this move the Carlepont forest was abandoned and the new line extended through Bailly, Tracy le Val and Nampcel.

With the west jaw of the pincers thus pushed down the Matz, the Germans tried to shove the other jaw in from the east, between Soissons and the Marne, but there they apparently were almost unsuccessful, for the French gave ground only slightly on the plateau west of the villages of Cutry and Domlery and repulsed attacks against St. Pierre Aigle and Ambleny. At Haute Bray, north of Soissons, the Huns met a smashing defeat.

Further to the south, in the region of Chateau Thierry, the Americans and French continued their good work of the previous week. Each day Pershing's men struck at the foe hard and by the end of the week they had scored considerable advances, the most valuable gain being the taking of Belleau wood, which had been full of machine gun nests. In the Clignon valley, just north of this, the Germans used up five divisions in futile assaults on the American positions. The French in this region occupied Montcourt and part of Bussières.

In the latter part of the week the indomitable French struck heavy blows at the Germans on the eastern wing of the new front and drove them back across the Matz with severe losses. Between the Alsne and the Villers-Cotterets forest the enemy made some progress, but southwest of Soissons his attack was broken.

The outstanding fact in last week's fighting is that the Germans suffered enormous losses, in return for which they gained ground that is comparatively unimportant. Certainly at the beginning of the week there was a feeling of nervousness among the allies—the civilians, not the soldiers—but this quickly disappeared and was replaced by the former confidence in the ability of the allied armies to resist the ham-

mer strokes of the Hun fighting machine. The German authorities cannot deny their severe losses in this offensive, and, with General von Stein, Prussian minister of war, as their mouth-piece, have striven to reassure the people by a series of falsehoods concerning the allies. First they issued the statement that the Americans in the battles about Chateau Thierry and in Belleau wood had been defeated and practically wiped out, though at the very time those same dashing marines were driving the enemy further and further to the west and north. Then Von Stein, addressing the reichstag, asserted that Foch's reserves no longer exist, having been thrown into the fight, together with the available Americans, in vain counter-attacks after the crown prince's advance had come to a halt on the Marne. The entente, he added, is beginning to admit heavy defeat and is comforting its people with having the help of America. The German press adds that the submarine raid in American waters stopped the sending of our troops to France.

The public may rest assured that all of these statements are absolute lies, easily refuted did space permit. They probably are necessary because of the growing distress of the German people over their losses and their distrust of their leaders.

The allied aviators gained new laurels during the battle of last week, destroying several scores of German planes, bombing their trenches and munition stations and raking their troops and transports with machine gun fire from low altitudes. In this the American aviators played an increasingly important part, as well as doing fine work on their own especial sector north of Toul.

Not yet ready to start their new drive in Italy, the Austrians continued to concentrate great masses of troops there. The point of attack was not revealed, but the Italians kept them busy with big raids. On Monday the Italian naval forces performed a notable exploit. Two torpedo boats raided an Austrian naval base near the Dalmatian islands, making their way among the enemy vessels and torpedoing one big battleship, which sank with a loss of more than 80 lives. Another battleship was damaged, and the little vessels then returned to their base in safety. It is said the Italians have built a "sea tank," long and narrow, which can cut its way through the steel netting with which the Austrian ports are protected. Possibly this was used in the Dalmatian raid.

Having, as they believe, completely subdued Russia and most of Ukraine, and having made a friend of Finland, the Germans are reported to be transporting rapidly to the west front all their troops except small detachments left to keep order. But all of the Russians are not crushed, for now the central committee of the constitutional democrats, who were ousted by the bolsheviks, have appealed to America and the entente powers to send an international army to Russia to combat the Germans. The committee urged that the aid be sent by way of Siberia so that it might first co-operate with General Semenov, who is still fighting on the Manchurian border, and then with the Cossack chiefs. The matter was seriously considered, but in Washington it was announced that President Wilson did not think the time was ripe for such action. He probably has definite plans in this regard, but they have not been revealed to the public. Japan is preparing a declaration defining her attitude toward Russia. If an allied army is sent into Siberia, it probably will consist mainly of Japanese and Chinese troops. Indeed, it is said Japan would object to the presence of contingents from the western nations as a reflection on her honor.

Fighting their way westward through Russia and Siberia as did the little band of Belgians who recently passed through the United States, some 15,000 Czech-Slovak troops are striving to reach the Pacific coast. The bolshevik authorities have ordered them disarmed, and they are having almost continuous battles with the soviet forces.

Addressing the graduating class of the United States Military academy, Secretary of War Baker on Wednesday said that more than a million American men would soon be in service in

France. A day or so before he stated that more than 700,000 had disembarked on French soil. An English correspondent at the front asserts that the American army is prepared, if necessary, to make a greater sacrifice than that involved in the brigading of American troops with the British and French. This cryptic statement may mean that if the plans of the allies demand it the Yankee troops will be sent to the fighting front almost immediately on arrival in France, without waiting for the preliminary training they have been receiving back of the lines. So far only a few of the Americans have been used in the real fighting, and in operations relatively small. As the conflict has changed its character, becoming more open, it may be the Americans are considered fit to take part after their training in this country.

Several important probabilities concerning the National army came to the fore last week. Representative Kahn said the war department intends to ask congress at the winter session to amend the draft law to include all men between the ages of eighteen and forty-nine. Provost Marshal General Crowder decided to recommend the exemption of professional ball players until the end of the season. Director General McAdoo asked the exemption of all railroad men, and the coal mine operators asked the same for miners.

The comparative failure of the German drives so far, the splendid resistance made by the French and British and the excellent showing made by the Americans must not lead the American people into a dangerous complacency and a feeling that "it is all over but the shouting." Those who know the truth realize that the war is far from ended—may last four or five years longer, indeed—and that the future holds for us tremendous sacrifices. We must put into its successful prosecution every ounce of energy we possess, even as do our fighting men on the other side of the ocean. There is no doubt that the war will be won finally by the forces of righteousness, but until it is won nothing else matters much but the winning of it, for if it were not won, nothing else would matter at all. The people of Great Britain and of France realized this long ago, and the people of America must realize it soon. It cannot be too strongly urged upon them that the man power of the central nations is still tremendous and that they are still determined by every means to force their will upon the rest of the world. The British and French troops, battered and wearied, doubtless can hold the lines until the autumn, but they look to our millions to achieve the victory, and this they can do only if they are given every possible support by those who stay at home. This will be given with a will if only the people fully recognize the seriousness of the situation and the urgency of the demands on them.

Owing to the fact that the German submarine raiders sank a number of vessels laden with sugar from Cuba and to the interruption in the traffic with the island caused by those operations, Food Administrator Hoover has asked that further restrictions be placed on the sale and use of sugar for a time. He also asks the people to place themselves on a limited beef allowance until September 1 next in order that the needs of the soldiers and civilians in France, Great Britain and Italy may be supplied.

Two great conventions opened in the United States last week, and each did its part in urging the carrying on of the war to victory. The first was that of the American Federation of Labor, to which President Wilson sent a message making it clear that the workers had it in their power to bring victory or defeat. President Gompers' address was a thundering defiance of the Hun, and during the week there were developments that showed the great majority of the delegates would not countenance anything that savored of disloyalty or even of undue pacifism.

In Chicago hundreds of the most eminent physicians and surgeons of the country, together with some famous ones from abroad, assembled for the meeting of the American Medical association. The address, the discussions and the work of these men were almost wholly related to the war, and the words of the leaders were heartening in the extreme.

WIN BY OFFENSIVE

Such Must Be Plan of Victorious Army, Says Foch.

Allied Generalissimo Declares Well Organized Reserves, Delivering Bludgeon Blow at Proper Time and Place Will Destroy the Enemy.

London.—Victory can be won in the end only by the army that takes the offensive, and success in this depends on husbanding and instructing the reserves. So declares General Foch in the weekly journal, the Field.

"Modern warfare, to arrive at its end and to impose its will on the enemy," General Foch says, "recognizes only one means—destruction of the enemy's organized forces."

"War undertakes and prepares this destruction by battle, which brings about the overthrow of the adversary, disorganizes his command, destroys his discipline, and nullifies his units as far as their fighting power is concerned."

No Victory in Defense.
"Our first axiom must be that to achieve its object a battle must not be purely defensive. A purely defensive battle, even well conducted, does not result in a victor and a vanquished. It is simply a game that must be begun over again."

"From this it is an obvious corollary that an offensive, whether started at the beginning of an action or whether it follows the defensive, can only give results, and, in consequence, must always be adopted at the finish."

"To maintain our position is not synonymous with being victorious and even prepares for a defeat. If we remain where we are and do not pass to the offensive to fix the direction of attack, to guard against the plans of the enemy, and prevent him from carrying out the same maneuver, we must undertake to carry on and sustain numerous combats, each with determined aim."

All Depends on Reserve.
"But since there remains no doubt that decisive attack is the very keystone of a battle, all other actions which make up a battle must be envisaged, considered, organized, provided with forces in the measure in which they will prepare, facilitate, and guarantee development of a decisive attack characterized by its mass, its surprise, its speed, and for which, in consequence, it is essential that there shall be the maximum reserve force possible of troops of maneuver."

"The reserve—that is to say, the prepared bludgeon—is organized and kept carefully instructed to execute the single act of battle from which results are expected—namely, the decisive attack."

Surprise, Mass and Speed.
"Reserves must be husbanded with the most extreme parsimony so that the bludgeon may be strong enough to make the blow as violent as possible. Let loose at the finish, without any lurking idea of saving them, with a well thought out plan for winning the battle at a point chosen and determined, reserves are thrown in all together in an action surpassing in violence and energy all other phases of battle, an action with proper characteristics—surprise, mass, and speed. All our forces really participate, either by preparing it or by carrying it out."

"In this, our supreme aim, we must not be deceived by appearances. Although theory falls when applied by feeble hands and when accessories obscure the main principle, history and reason show us that in battle there is a single argument which is worth while—namely, decisive attack, which is alone capable of assuring the desired result—the overthrow of the adversary."

Inverted Point of View.
There was a rush of wind, a cloud of dust, and the car rushed on, leaving the old gentleman sprawling in the roadway. He picked himself up and dashed up to a policeman, yelling excitedly:

"That motorcar knocked me down!"

The policeman took out a business-like notebook and said:

"Did you notice the number, sir?"

"Yes," said the injured one. "It was number 99."


Just then another policeman, who had seen the accident, came hurrying up and said:

"No, no! The number's 99. This gentleman was standing on his head when he noticed it!"

Work That Will Pass.
Some young people are satisfied if they are doing work that will "pass." They are conscious of its defects, but if these are passed over without a challenge, they feel that they have done well enough. That is a mistake. We cannot be perfect, but we should not be satisfied with imperfections. Set your standard at the highest. See that nothing passes you that does not represent your best.—Girls' Companion.

Made Him Devout Christian.
Gen. Lew Wallace said that before writing "Ben Hur" he had no fixed religious convictions, but as the story grew and the Christ figure assumed reality his whole life was affected by it and when the work was completed he found himself for the first time in his life a devout Christian.

Slightly Mixed.
Mrs. Mix—There was a time when you minded what I said, but now it's like water on a duck's back—in at one ear and out at the other.



National and Local Meat Business

The meat business of the country is conducted by various agencies—

By small slaughter-houses in villages—

By local Abattoirs or small Packing Houses in towns—

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"Pop, is an abyss anything that's sleepy?"
"Of course not, child. What put that into your head?"
"Well, people always talk about it as yawning."

Natural Result.
"Smith seems to have a bad case of broken spirits."
"I suppose that comes from his brandy smashes."

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