

GERMANY HAS STRONG SYSTEM OF DEFENSES

Should Three Lines West of Border Be Broken Huns Would Fall Back to Rhine Fortifications.

New York, Oct. 20.—Events of the past three months, involving the ebb of the German tide of invasion in France and Belgium, have emphasized the importance of the German defensive systems which have been prepared by the foe for just the emergency which now confronts him.

The German defensive lines resemble a tree with three main branches. The trunk of this "tree" has its root at the Swiss frontier and continues north as far as Metz, where it divides into two branches. The westerly branch runs to the northwest as far as the Meuse river, where it separates, one "limb" crossing the Meuse and running westward, after which it sweeps to the north on a long curve. The other follows the Meuse down as far as Namur, whence it runs to Brussels and Antwerp and thence to the Dutch frontier.

The second line, known as the "Line of the Meuse," is established on the east bank of the Meuse river northward from Namur. It passes Sedan and Mezieres and enters Belgium just to the southwest of Dinant. At Namur it leaves the river and runs to Brussels, continuing on to Antwerp, where it joins the "Dutch border" and continues on to the Dutch frontier.

The third line is the original defense zone along the German frontier south of Metz. It is centered around the 37 permanent forts about Strasbourg. It runs over the high and precipitous hills on the Vosges mountains and is several miles deep.

At Metz the Germans have constructed 28 great forts which are so located as to command all approaches and, at the same time, capable of concentrating their fire on any fort which happens to be entered by the allies.

Northwest of Metz, is the great iron field of Briey. The importance of this iron deposit has compelled the Germans to convert this whole country there into a veritable fortress. This line runs along the boundary between France and Germany, extending to the northeast until it reaches the Luxembourg line. If this belt should be pierced, the Germans may fall back to the Saarbrücken and Kaiserslautern regions, which are interspersed by rivers and high wooded hills, which lend themselves admirably to defensive operations.

East of Luxembourg, it is reported the Germans have devoted a great deal of time and labor to the construction of permanent fortifications. The country along the Belgian frontier between Luxembourg and Holland is dominated by Coblenz which Marshal Foch considers the key to Germany. In this area is Bonn, a fortress of the first class; Cologne, which is protected by a broad belt of forts, and a series of strongholds running along the western side of the Rhine until that river passes into Holland.

Should the three lines mentioned be broken, or if the allies should break through between Metz and the Swiss frontier, the Germans would be compelled to fall back into Germany proper or, to the south, to cross the Rhine. This historic river is really the western moat of the Teutonic castle. Its whole eastern bank is strongly fortified and would be capable of a protracted defense. This line of resistance begins at Lahr and runs down the Rhine through Offenbach, Kassel, Karlsruhe, Mannheim, Darmstadt, Wiesbaden, Bendorf, Kalk, Densberg and Wassel. In their retreat from their present positions the Germans will be able to shorten their lines materially and thus increase the number of men available for resistance along their new frontiers. The Hunding line is about 70 miles shorter than the Hindenburg system. The line from the Meuse would shorten the front by 20 miles more while the Germans, if they should retreat to their own frontier, would be able to still shorten it by 35 miles.

This shortening of the line will be of tremendous importance in future operations by the allies. It would make up to a large degree for the heavy losses inflicted upon the Germans during the campaign of the past summer and give them manpower that would be a formidable barrier to an allied advance.

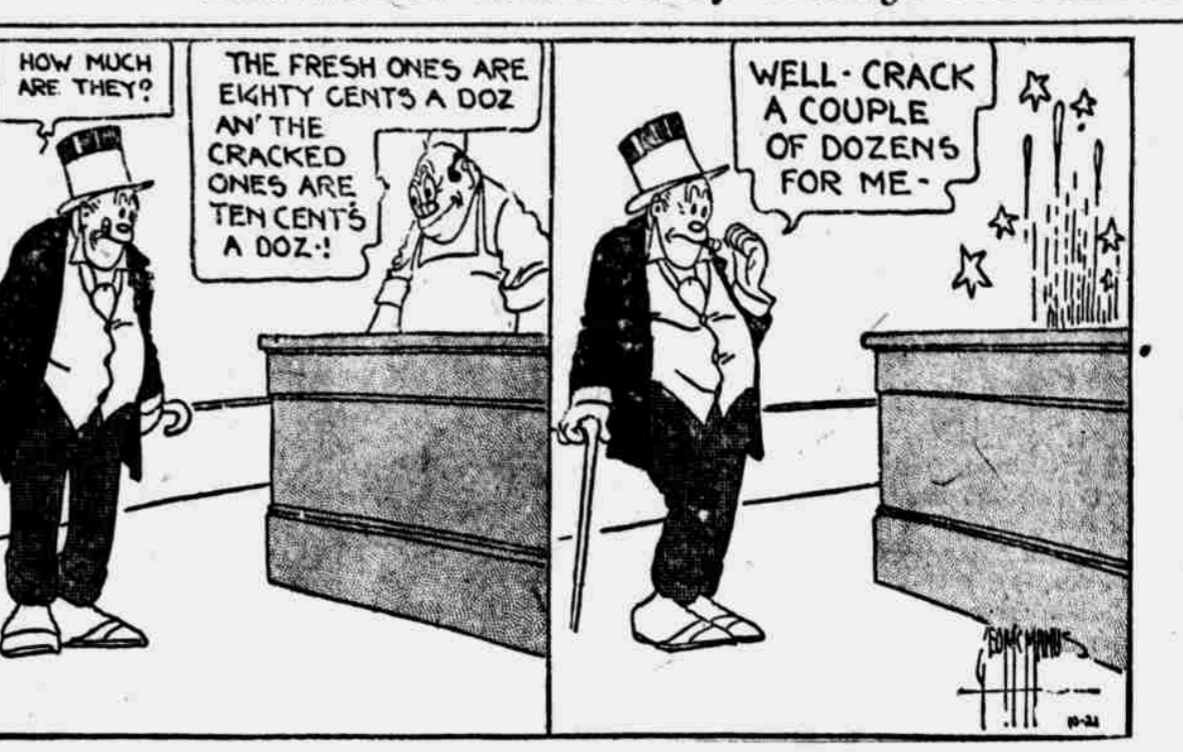
BRINGING UP FATHER



THE FRESH ONES ARE EIGHTY CENTS A DOZ



Drawn for The Bee by George McManus



HUNS STEALING AND BURNING IN THEIR RETREAT

Industrial Works and Homes Looted; Virtually All Men Able to Work Taken As Captives.

By Associated Press. With the Allied Armies in France and Belgium, Oct. 20.—A few fires are still visible at Tournai and the surrounding country, showing that the enemy is burning his stores. The Germans are also stripping the country of everything imaginable and are burning what they have been unable to remove. Cattle taken from the peasants are being driven eastward and the farmers' haystacks have been burned.

Market and Financial News of the Day

LOCAL LIVE STOCK

Western Steers Close Weak 50 to 75 Cents Lower Than Last Week; No Sheep Saturday.

Receipts were: Cattle—Hogs—Sheep. Official Monday... 19,932 4,035 40,126. Official Tuesday... 12,211 5,115 45,705. Official Wednesday... 12,550 5,827 34,286. Official Thursday... 4,312 4,301 40,518. Official Friday... 7,708 4,469 41,468. Estimate Saturday... 259 3,000.

Fair Food Prices.

The price fixing committee of Douglas county has named the following prices. Retailers are not permitted to charge more than these prices:

GRAIN MARKETS

Corn 3 Cents Higher to 1 Cent Lower; Fair Demand; Other Grains Unchanged; Receipts Light.

N. Y. STOCKS AND BONDS.

The following quotations, which are up to date, were furnished by Logan & Bryan, members New York Stock Exchange, 15 South Sixteenth Street, New York City.

Chicago Live Stock.

Chicago, Ill., Oct. 20.—Cattle—Receipts, 3,600 head; market steady; steers, \$11.00 to \$12.00; hogs, \$10.00 to \$11.00; sheep, \$10.00 to \$11.00.

Kansas City Live Stock.

Kansas City, Mo., Oct. 19.—Cattle—Receipts, 2,000 head; market steady; steers, \$11.00 to \$12.00; hogs, \$10.00 to \$11.00; sheep, \$10.00 to \$11.00.

TILT BETWEEN UPPER HOUSE AND PRESIDENT

Many Wise Observers Say Response to Germany's Last Peace Note Was Senate-Made Document.

By EDGAR C. SNYDER. In a Washington, Oct. 20.—(Special.)—In a recent article in The Bee referring to the clash between the senate and the president on woman suffrage, and the judgment among democrats that the senate gained prestige and the president lost it, I closed by saying, "When will these two clash again?"

Tempest Broke in Senate.

When "Max" accepted the terms involved in his inquiry and the presidential reply, involving the evacuation of France and Belgium, which Germany is trying to do with all speed and minimum of loss, leaving the 14 points of the January 8 speech and the four points of the Fourth of July speech at Mount Vernon, as a basis of settlement, the temper broke on both sides of the political aisle.

Americans to Participate in London Boxing Contest

Chicago, Oct. 20.—A boxing contest for the championship of the allied fleets and the king's trophy, to be held in London December 11 and 12, will be participated in by a picked team from the Great Lakes Naval Training station, it was announced tonight.

President's War Aims Assailed.

Not so with the senate. Volumes of oratory broke out. Republicans like Lodge, Brandegee, McCumber, Reed, New and others, demanded a response of "unconditional surrender." Democrats like Williams, Reed, McKellar and Owen, all expressed their view that "unconditional surrender" should be nothing but unconditional surrender. They tempered their statements with a depreciation of any thought that the president would tolerate anything else.

Senate-Made Response.

The day was apparently spent in finding suitable grounds for a statement to be sent, which would meet the demands of the senate and, at the same time, be at least, the approval of the entente belligerents. It was found and the president sent an answer in consonance with public opinion.

Leaves to Collect \$2 and Gets 30 Days More

Thomas Dolan, laborer, who was arrested Friday and sentenced to 15 days for drunkenness and disorderly conduct, was put to work unloading a car of coal at the police station Saturday morning.

Goes to U. S. Supreme Court For New Trial for Mooney

San Francisco, Oct. 19.—Maxwell McNitt, counsel of record for Thomas J. Mooney, announced here today that he will leave for Washington tomorrow to petition for a writ of certiorari from the United States supreme court to secure a new trial for Mooney.

Chicago Produce.

Chicago, Oct. 19.—Butter—Unsettled; creamery, 50¢. Eggs—Receipts, 4,500 cases; unchanged. Potatoes—Hilber; receipts, \$1.15 to \$1.18; Minnesota and Dakota, sacks, \$1.95 to \$2.00; Wisconsin, bulk, \$1.65 to \$1.70; Wisconsin, sacks, \$1.60 to \$1.65.

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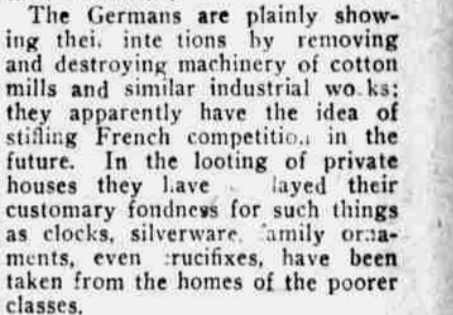
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Aitken, Auto Race Driver, Victim of "Flu."



John Aitken, famous as an automobile racing driver, died recently at his home in Indianapolis from pneumonia, which followed an attack of influenza. Aitken was thirty-three years old and had piloted cars in many big speed contests throughout the country.

Old Game in New Setting Being Worked on Hotel Men

A new bunco game, or rather, an old one with new applications is being worked on hotel keepers of Omaha and vicinity. The mode of procedure is something as follows: The crook learns the name of one of the best customers of the hotel, say, Mr. Jones, and at a time when Mr. Jones has his package, he has a C. O. D. package sent over and as he will probably not be back when the package arrives, asks the manager to please pay the charges and he will take care of it when he comes in.

Bigley Finds Liquor and Turns it Over to Police

John Bigley, found two bottles of Old Homestead whisky, and called the attention of Emergency Officer Barrett and Officer Lane to the whisky from Bigley. The incident occurred about noon Sunday. Lane is now off duty and Barrett's temperature was up to 104 when he left the station last night.

Hawaiian Swimming Stars To Enlist in U. S. Navy

New York, Oct. 20.—Duke Kahanamoku, Harold Kruger and Clarence Lane, Hawaiian swimming champions, will enlist in the navy and be sent to the Pelham Bay naval training station, it was announced tonight. It is expected they will join the Pelham bay swimming team, making it possible for that team to vie with the Great Lakes swimmers for the national championship.

Tris Speaker to Enter Naval Aviation School

Boston, Oct. 20.—Tris Speaker, center fielder on the Cleveland American league baseball club, will enter the naval aviation school at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

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SKINNER PACKING COMPANY

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POULTRY BUTTER EGGS

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DR. E. R. TARRY, 240 Bee Bldg., Omaha, Neb.