



"TO THINE OWN SELF BE TRUE, AND IT MUST FOLLOW AS THE NIGHT THE DAY: THOU CANST NOT THEN BE FALSE TO ANY MAN."

By STECK, SHELOR & SCHRODER.

WALHALLA, SOUTH CAROLINA, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27, 1918.

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IT PAYS TO BUY FOR CASH.

GERMANS BOMBARD PARIS.

New and Mighty Gun Used at Distance of 76 Miles.

Paris, March 23.—According to the latest reports the long distance cannon which bombarded Paris this afternoon was firing from a distance of 120 kilometers (approximately 74 1/2 miles) and was located about 12 kilometers beyond the French front.

Shell Every 15 Minutes.

A dispatch filed at 4.15 p. m. announced that Paris had been under bombardment for eight hours, shells of 240 millimetre, or about 9 1/2 inches, falling in the capital and suburbs at intervals of 15 minutes. Ten persons were said to have been killed and 15 injured. The shortest distance from Paris to the front is 62 miles.

Army Officers Surprised.

Washington, March 23.—The long range bombardment of Paris by a German gun presumably 62 miles off, announced as a fact to-day in the French capital, dumbfounded American ordnance officers. The 22-mile bombardment of Dunkirk by the Germans more than a year ago had set a record and ordnance officers of the American, British and French corps freely conceded they never had dreamed of a monster gun with a range of more than 30 miles.

Some officers frankly questioned that shells from rifles or cannon actually had fallen in Paris. Others sought explanation in new devices or secret gun emplacements in the advances from Paris. No one of them wanted to know that a gun had been invented by the Germans or any one else which could throw nine-inch projectiles 60 miles. Pieces of shells bearing the marks of gun rifling seemed to preclude the idea of any ordinary airplane bomb. It was suggested that monster airplanes mounting guns might have been used, but no one has ever conceived the possibilities of carrying a nine and one-half inch weapon in the air.

Some officers conceived the possibility that in the outskirts of Paris there might be a hidden gun. It was admitted that it would have no military value and could only be a weapon of terror.

If the German experts have evolved a wholly new type of gun not dependent upon the same mathematical factors that govern ordnance everywhere, officers here think it highly unlikely that they would employ it for an isolated and meaningless attack of Paris.

It might be, some officers thought, that a continuous dropping of medium caliber shells on the city was part of a hope for breaking the spirit of France by some mysterious visitation.

A bombardment of Paris at a distance of 62 miles appeared to most of the ordnance officers so much a complete surprise that they found it difficult to talk about.

Big Gun Finally Located.

Paris, March 24.—The German "monster cannon" which has been bombarding Paris has been located in the forest of St. Gobain, west of Laon, and exactly 122 kilometers (approximately 76 miles) from the Paris city hall. The gun bombarded Paris during the greater part of Sunday.

The day was ushered by loud explosions from the 10-inch shells, and immediately the alarm to take cover was sounded. This occurred at 6.55 o'clock and many persons sought shelter, but greater numbers of them appeared in the streets on their way to the churches, which were almost as well filled as usual. The women who sell palm leaves on Palm Sundays, did their usual thriving business.

Shells Every 20 Minutes.

At first the shells began arriving at intervals of 20 minutes, and the detonations, considering the Sunday calm, seemed louder than those of Saturday. Their power to disturb the equanimity of the populace, however, seemed less, the people refusing to be distracted from their Sunday habits to any great extent.

For the benefit of that portion of the populace which had been led to believe the Germans had broken through the line and were bombarding Paris from nearby positions, a semi-official note was issued during the day. They warned the people against believing pessimistic reports.

"The French front is intact," said the note. "Any assertion to the contrary is a lie."

The bombardment of the capital ended around 1 o'clock, and as late as 3 o'clock no explosions had been heard for more than an hour. The "clear signal" was sounded at 3.30 o'clock.

Although during the earlier hours of the bombardment the shells arrived on 20-minute intervals, later in the day they began arriving every 15 minutes on the average, and some of them even fell 12 minutes apart.

In military circles the belief was expressed that the Germans were using two long-distance guns. The Matin says the position of one of the guns was established in the St. Gobain forest, which would place it somewhat farther south than had been believed and in the wooded area. This position would be about 70 miles from Paris.

Paris Streets Showed Animation.

During the early hours of the morning traffic in the streets of Paris was shut down or curtailed, but before noon both the subways and tramways began running again. In the afternoons the streets of the city showed great animation.

The comment of the French press this morning was about evenly divided between the big gun which is bombarding the city from back of the German lines and the terrific battle raging on the British front. The tone of the comment on the bombardment was of astonishment at the feasibility of the performance. As to the battle, a favorable ending of it is confidently expected.

Admiration for German Feat.

The newspapers do not conceal their admiration for the mechanical feat of the Germans in constructing their new weapon, but speak passionately of the useless barbarity of the bombardment.

The Matin says it is consoling to note that the number of victims is small, but it asks for reprisals on German cities.

Prof. Paul Painleve, former premier and president of the Academy of Sciences, told The Excelsior that by using tungsten in the fabrication of the projectile, the tungsten shells would be of about half the diameter of steel shells of an even weight, and that therefore the atmospheric resistance would be less, this accounting for the extremely long range. He also touched upon the possibility of a propeller being employed on the projectile.

Alfred Capus, in The Figaro, alludes to the making of the gun as a great mechanical feat, but points out that as a military factor the weapon is entirely inefficient.

The Petit Parisien comments on the bombardment as an extremely minor incident as compared with the gigantic battle in progress on the British front. Le Petit Journal says that Jules Verne had foreseen this gun and it declares moreover, that it is a French invention. "More than a year ago," it adds, "we discovered the secret of firing our cannon more than 100 kilometers. The secret lies in the greater suppression of the atmospheric resistance."

The Echo de Paris declare the bombardment is designed to give the impression that Paris is within the range of the German guns. It is a political cannon, the newspaper says.

Confidence the Password.

Premier Clemenceau's newspaper, Le Homme Libre, asserts that the password of the hour is "confidence." "Germany," it declares, "has wished to make it a complete offensive on all fronts, the land, water, and air fronts, as well as the front of the rear." We are facing an enemy who wishes to end it as soon as possible. That suits us. Every shell that falls into Paris drives deeper into us the confidence in an ultimate victory.

The newspaper, Le Journal, says the gun is of 240 millimeters caliber and of Austrian manufacture. It is a very delicate piece of machinery, which must be handled by expert mathematicians and gunners, the newspaper adds, as the loading and pointing is a difficult task. It declares each shot costs about \$4,000. "This is a new conception of our enemies," the newspaper comments.

The regular meeting of Fairview Farmers' Union, No. 85, will be held at the school house on Saturday afternoon at 1 o'clock, April 6. Let every member be present, as there is business of importance to attend to, and this will be the last meeting until August, 1918.

Paris, March 25.—The long range bombardment of Paris was resumed at 6.30 this morning, but was interrupted after the second shot. After a brief interval two more shots were fired and the bombardment was again suspended at 9.30.

Bombardment Interrupted.

Paris, March 25.—It is hoped that the big gun which is shelling Paris will soon be silenced, says Figaro, which points out that the gun which bombarded Dunkirk two years ago was soon put out of action. The French newspaper says that French airplanes have been hunting it since Saturday, and the fact that it has stopped firing is due perhaps to their arrival. Military authorities are convinced that the Germans are using two guns.

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GERMAN DRIVE CONTINUES.

Allied Losses in Territory and Materials Are Heavy.

(First reports of the German drive against the Allied forces will be found on page 2.)

New York, March 24.—European cables to-day indicate that the great German drive against the British has lost its initial effectiveness, if not its fierceness and power, and apparently is being checked by Haig's forces. Although the official report from Berlin announces the capture of the town of Ham, ten miles west of St. Quentin, no extravagant claims are made of additional territory or prisoners taken. Saturday's official announcement put the fighting immediately east of Ham, and the capture of the town itself means no great further advance for the Germans.

The most interesting feature of the Berlin news of the day was the statement that American troops are fighting with the British. No word to this effect had been given out either in Paris, London or Washington, and to-day was without confirmation at Washington. It is not improbable, however, that American engineers, and possibly field troops who have had front line training, are on the British firing line.

Latest figures on the enormous price the Germans are paying in lives for their advance against the British put their losses for the first three days of battle at over 300,000 men. The British estimate their losses at probably half the German figures.

Fresh German Gains.

New York, March 25.—The Germans have made fresh gains in their tremendous drive against the British line. Berlin claims that the Germans have captured Bapaume, the key position between Arras and Albert. Berlin also claims that more than 45,000 British have been captured and over 600 guns.

Field Marshal Haig, while admitting fresh German gains, does not mention the loss of Bapaume. He says, however, that the British have lost heavily in material, including a number of tanks.

French Troops in Battle.

France has thrown the weight of her forces into the great battle raging with unexampled intensity on the western front, and the British and French armies are now battling together against the onslaught of the common enemy in his desperate attempt to break through the allied line.

The British armies are holding fast along the line of the Somme and also in the region north of Bapaume. Field Marshal Haig reports to-day. The Germans, in their thrusts in the latter sections, reached the British trenches at only one point, and there they were immediately ejected. Their assaults elsewhere were smothered by the British fire with great loss to the enemy.

On the Somme line bodies of German troops which had succeeded in forcing their way across the river between Licourt and Brie, south of Peronne, were driven back to the easterly bank. On both sides of the Bapaume the German attacks were resumed to-day.

The greatest danger point at present seems to be further south, where the Germans apparently have driven through the great width of the region they devastated in retiring in 1917, as the Paris statement to-day reports heavy fighting in the region of Noyon. This town itself is some ten miles to the west of Chauny, in the region of which Berlin yesterday reported the repulse of Franco-American reserves, but the German advance probably has been met considerably short of Noyon.

The wedge driven into the allied line is evidently a deep one, however, as the French troops are reported by Paris to be contesting for the heights to the north of the Oise with important German forces. The Oise on this part of the front runs southwest past Chauny and passes to the south of Noyon.

British Retreat Called Masterly.

Field Marshal Haig's withdrawal, previously planned in case of heavy enemy attack, has been executed in a manner described as masterly, and great credit for its success is given to the small units which, sometimes outnumbered eight or nine to one, clung to their posts and impeded the German advance. The British have made few counter attacks, but every one attempted has been successful. The British efforts are centered on withdrawing as occasion requires and permitting the enemy to wear himself out before the British defense. Sunday the fighting forces in the north reached the old battlefield of the Somme, and from which the Germans retreated a year ago.

On the northern end of the great battle line where the sanguinary struggle has not halted for many hours, the Germans have reached Chauny, an important point on the Oise River southwest of La Fere. Here, however, their advance has not been so great as directly west of St. Quentin, where they have progressed more than ten miles. The British and French battle lines meet near Chauny and the French lines along the Chemin des Dames and eastward toward Rheims would be menaced if the Germans advanced as far as Compeigne, on the road to Paris.

(Continued on Fourth Page.)

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