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Ils ne Passeront Pas!

Verdun Battle Cry Now Applies to French Eastern Boundary Where New Defence Plans Have Been Completed

CREATED BY FOCH

Secret Underground Workings to Accommodate all Branches of Service From Artillery to Hospitals

Paris.—The greatest experiment in the history of war defence has been worked out by the French General Staff. It is an underground defence that will have whole cities and a population of hundreds of thousands, hospitals, barracks and stores in the depths of the earth.

The forts, located in secret places and equipped with a new type of artillery, the most powerful that modern research has produced, will constitute France's main defence in the next war. This ne wsystem of defence has practically been completed. Construction has gone on uninterruptedly since peace was declared, practically unknown to the bulk of the population. Marshal Foch is the creator of this new system. When it has finally been approved and tested by a series and tactical and practical manoeuvres the marshal intends to resign from the directorship of the Supreme War Council.

Though the location of the fort circles will remain a secret rigidly guarded by the General Staff, this much is certain that the story of a stupendous concrete trench running all the way from the North Sea to the Swiss border, which popular imagination had conjured up, is a myth.

NEW FORTS INVISIBLE.

France will rely on nothing so obviously tangible and visible as a concrete ditch. The new forts are invisible and only the General Staff knows their location. The troops that have worked on them were sworn to secrecy and labored in monthly batches. None of the soldiers knew in what part of France he was. They were held in barracks and were not allowed to communicate with peasants in the neighborhood, receive or send letters.

While Cabinets came and went, while France hovered on the brink of bankruptcy through a financial crisis last year, the work of building the forts has never ceased. It was the first requisite of peace the high military command considered and nothing was to interrupt or obstruct the work. Not until these forts were completed could France seriously consider the evacuation of the Rhineland. Left without assurances of security from Britain and the United States and with only Belgium as a constant ally, "as she was in the first hour," military authorities insisted that the forts be built and that France rely on her own resources to ward off an enemy invasion in the future.

The high military command was of the opinion that there have been enough invasions. If war should come again the enemy must stay outside. A repetition of 1914, when the most industrial part of the country was laid waste and national effort handicapped by the cutting off of the whole north had to be prevented.

The general staff is of the opinion that the remedy has been found and that the new system will ward off any attack, by land or by air.

PLAN DATES FROM 1914.

The new plan is not wholly new. It dates from 1914. Even then it became obvious that the old system of fortifications, bastions, walls, bulwarks and defence works was useless.

The French watched with alarm as the forts of Liege crumbled to pieces under the German siege guns. One shot went over, the second went short and the third generally hit. The first two shots were fired to find the exact range. The remarkable accuracy of the German gunners and the destructive power of their guns made of the forts a ridiculous anomaly. In some instances the motto of the German artillery became "One shot, one fort."

If the Belgians resisted for fourteen days and held up the German advance for that length of time it was because the Belgian infantry opposed its flesh and blood to German steel and high explosive. Maubeuge was considered impregnable. The forts were of different make-up to those of Liege. Hopes ran high for a day or so, but no longer. Maubeuge fell after three days, its forts smashed out of existence.

At Antwerp the lesson had been learned. Forts were useless. So the Belgian army simply blew them up itself, saving its garrison from being exterminated by the enemy.

THEY SHALL NOT PASS!

Verdun was the first decisive test of the new or invisible fort system. Not all the forts were built according to the new scheme, but some were and these were the ones that resisted best and checked what the Kaiser called "The Kolossal attack." As the enemy advanced over open ground, the horizon would suddenly show a row of powerful cannon. These guns ran on spirals and suddenly fired their destructive salvos. Then they just as suddenly disappeared again under ground, only to appear a few seconds later.

Stores of ammunition were held underground. It was only when the forts became isolated and the munitions ran out that the Germans could advance and engage the garrisons in the terrific hand-to-hand engagements that marked that epochal battle.

VERDUN MODEL FOLLOWED

The whole of France's new fort system will operate on the Verdun model. It will be a chain of underground fort-cities.

Tunnels will connect the forts. Some of these tunnels are half a mile underground. They are impregnable against artillery fire, being constructed of massive concrete.

They connect also with immense stores, hospitals, barracks and machine shops. Whole cities are practically underground. Armies can march for miles without being seen by the enemy air service. They will suddenly pour out through the invisible forts of go to reinforce or relieve the garrisons.

It is because the Government has confidence in the perfection of this new defence system and considers that sufficient protection is afforded in the event of a new invasion that M. Painleve, the Minister of War, will consent to talk about a reduction in the term of enlistment for soldiers and that Marshal Foch will take some rest, after being in harness continually since 1914.

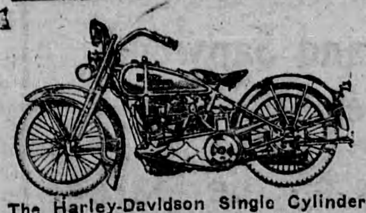
A staff of the ablest engineers has been at work picking out spots where other points of resistance may be built up and linked with the general system. There has been nothing feverish or hasty in the preparation; everything has been conducted along scientific lines with the utmost care and after considerable consultation.

The next war will see France defend itself with these underground cities. They are so constructed that they will be able to hold out independently for a great length of time. Neither man power nor munitions will lack, for there will be concentrations of troops in the depths of the earth—regiments and divisions of them—and they will have the immense stores that are being gathered in peace time to draw upon.

It is the greatest experiment in the history of defence. Every Frenchman hopes that it never will be necessary to use it. But at any rate, official France feels secure. "Ils ne passeront pas!"

HOW ABOUT GAS?

Such is the report in a recent copy of The Mail & Empire, but the first thing that strikes one who has "ground-hogged" it in France during the Great War is "How about gas attacks?" Poison gas is heavier than air and always searched out the dug-out, the funk hole, and the trench bottom. If France has solved how to counteract this menace then the new plan is fine, but so vivid is the memory of the smell of the vitiated air of the various "caves" along Vimy Ridge brought to mind that one wonders just how greater underground workings can be safely ventilated to assure the security indicated in the above article.



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KEEP CHILDREN WELL DURING HOT WEATHER

Every mother knows how fatal the hot summer months are to small children. Cholera infantum, diarrhoea, dysentry, colic and stomach troubles are rife at this time and often a precious little life is lost after only a few hours illness. The mother who keeps Baby's Own Tablets in the house feels safe. The occasional use of the Tablets prevent stomach and bowel troubles, or if trouble comes suddenly—as it generally does—the Tablets wil bring the baby safely through. They are sold by medicine dealers or by mail at 25 cents a box from The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

Point of View.

"I think the world just revolves around the woman."

"Well, they certainly need something more around them than what they have."

Well Deserved.

Congratulations are being sent to Commander and Mrs. Maurice M. Witherspoon for the birth of a laughter.—San Francisco Examiner.

When Time Almost Flies.

"I have had so many troubles, my dear, that this year I have grown six months older."—Pele Mele (Paris).

Woman (leaving theatre and talking loudly)—"We must get along to our car now." Her friend (innocently)—"I do hope we won't have to go on top, dear."

NURSES

The Toronto Hospital for Incurables, in affiliation with Bellevue and Allied Hospitals, New York City, offers a three years' Course of Training to young women, having the required education, and desirous of becoming nurses. This Hospital has adopted the eight-hour system. The pupils receive uniforms of the School, a monthly allowance and traveling expenses to and from New York. For further information write the Superintendent.

Useful Hints for Housewives

Lemons if placed in a bowl of cold water will keep fresh for weeks.

A piece of wet muslin wrung out of cold water and laid round a jug of milk or bottle of lemonade will cause evaporation and keep the liquid much cooler than if it were placed in a basin of cold water. In the same way, wet muslin placed over butter keeps the butter firm in warm weather.

A little vinegar sprinkled over a wet cloth and laid over fish will make it firm.

A little sugar sprinkled over cold ham brings out the flavor.

Ink stains on white material often can be entirely removed by soaking in lux after first applying salts of lemon to the spot, with a cup of boiling water below to moisten it.

THE NURSING MOTHER

Often Finds Herself Weak and Feeling Worn-Out

The nursing mother more than any other woman needs rich blood and plenty of it. The demands upon her health are many and severe. Household duties and the care of her children exact heavy toll, while hurried meals, broken rest and indoor living tend to weaken her. No wonder she is often indisposed through weakness, headaches, backaches and nervousness. In this condition the blood will always be found weak and watery, and relief will come only through enriching the blood. For this purpose Dr. Williams' Pink Pills is the best blood-making tonic known. Through their use many weak, ailing wives and mothers have found new health and strength. As an example of this Mrs. Sarah Cortez, Ellenstown, N.B., says:—"While nursing my baby I became run-down, very weak and nervous. My head ached all the time and I was not able to do my work. I had often read of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills and began using them, and what a blessing they proved. Before I had used a half dozen boxes I felt like a new person ,and by their continued use for a while I was entirely restored to my former health and strength. I take pleasure in recommending Dr. Williams' Pink Pills to everyone suffering as I did."

You can get these pills through any medicine dealer or by mail at 50 cents a box from The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

"Because I Tell You to"

Ethel Peterson.

He was about four, I should judge, and had come down-town with his mother on the street car. As they got off, he spied one of those machines that hold balls of gum, wrapped in black, red and yellow. You deposit a cent, push a rod and—lo and behold!—as if by magic a ball of gum drops out into your hand. Can't you see how fascinating it might be to a child?

The little chap rushed toward it, crying, "Mama, please give me a penny; I want some gum."

"No!" returned Mother, walking right along briskly.

Perforce her son had to follow, but tearfully he persisted, "Mama, can't I have just one?"

To which his mother replied brusquely, "I said, No!" and started across the street with the boy wailing lustily beside her.

Well, maybe Mother didn't have a penny, or possibly she didn't approve of the gum habit for small boys, or she might have been in a great hurry to accomplish her shopping and get back again. But just think back to the days when you were a child—what would such a short, brusque denial as, "I said, 'No!' have done to your emotions? Wouldn't you have felt injured and rebellious? Even now, with an adult consciousness, how do you react when some one makes a short, dogmatic statement, without proof, in refutation of your opinion? It doesn't "set well", does it?

My mother invariably when I pressed her as to an adequate reason for her insistence on my doing something I did not want to do said, "Because I tell you to." For her that ended the matter, and many a scolding I received because I sulked afterwards. But to my childish mind it did not seem a sufficient reason for having to do something that I disliked. Now, I would apply the word "arbitrary" to such a statement, and though my vocabulary did not then contain that word, my thought was the same.

I noticed another arbitrary mother on a street car the other day. She ordered her little daughter to come and sit by her. The child was sitting quietly right across the aisle, looking out of the window, and the car had few people in it. The child evidently enjoyed being alone—perhaps playing that she was going shopping by herself. Her brow clouded ,and she asked, "Why, Mother?" I too, wondered, and then I heard, "Because I tell you to."

It seemed to me, privately, the only reason the mother could give—she was merely showing her authority in public. The little girl obeyed reluctantly, all her pleasure gone. Tears filled her brown eyes, and she cried softly until her mother threatened to punish her when they got home if she didn't "straighten up."

My sympathy was entirely with the child. None of us like to be ordered peremptorily to do things, and the stronger our personalities, the less we can endure it. Why not, then, be reasonable with the children? Don't deprive them of innocent pleasures for no real reason, and if you have a reason that the child has not appreciated, why not try to explain so that he will understand?

Children are becoming increasingly restive under any restraint, and the more rebellion they store up in their souls while they are little, the sooner they wil break away from discipline in adolescent days. But even the tiny ones are surprisingly logical, and while they resent unfairness and arbitrariness, they appreciate justice and fairness quite as much.

In clean, bright *Aluminum*

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When you serve RED ROSE ORANGE PEKOE to your family you are giving them the best tea you can buy.

Minard's Liniment for Insect bites.

English Traveller (who has missed his connection)—"Which is the best hotel in this town?" Irish Porter—"There are some that prefers the Railway Hotel, and there are some that prefers the Imperial; but whichever of the two you go to, you'll lie awake all night wishing you'd gone to the other."

"The workingmen of the nation and the middle classes lifted the radio from the laboratory stage to a billion-dollar-a-year-business within 6 years."—Frank A. Arnold.

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Another Reason Why They Serve Motorists Better and Save Them Money

The advent of the Balloon Tire required an expansion in repair methods. To meet this situation Repair Schools were opened at the Firestone factories where the Firestone dealers and their repair men have been instructed in the care of tires and the use of the specially-designed Firestone Balloon Tire equipment.

In each territory throughout the country Dealer Educational Meetings have been held. These have been attended by most of the Firestone Service Dealers who have obtained the latest information regarding tire construction, care and repair methods.

Firestone Dealers are kept up-to-date on tire development and service—continually progressing and improving their ability to serve you better and save you money. See the nearest Firestone Dealer to-day and let him handle your tire requirements.

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BLOODHOUND and Foxhound Cross-breds, 4 months' old, best fox, coon and deer dog; also Registered Scotch Collie Pups, natural workers, born heelers. Write Charles Resbeck, Vankleek Hill, Ontario.

In Peril.

Pett Ridge tells of a junior clerk who approached the head of a firm which was doing none too well, with a view to a raise in salary.

"Certainly not," was the reply, "and let me warn you, young man, if you're not jolly careful I'll make you a partner!"—London Opinion

Census Taker — "Your husband's name, please." Mrs. Grogan—"Pat." Census Taker — "I want his full name." Mrs. Grogan—"Well, sor, when he's full he thinks he's Gene Tunney, but when oi lays me hands on 'im, he's just plain Pat again."

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Tells cause of cancer and what to do for pain, bleeding, odor, etc. Write for it to-day, mentioning this paper. Address Indianapolis Cancer Hospital Indianapolis, Ind.

Blisters.
Prevent any chance of infection by using Minard's. Heals also.
MINARD'S "KING OF PAIN" LINIMENT

WOMAN COULD HARDLY WALK
Mrs. Horn Tells how Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound Restored Her Health

Hamilton, Ont.—"I have taken Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and would not be without it now. I had a female trouble so badly I could hardly walk and I was all run-down and could hardly get around to do my housework. I would be in bed three or four days at a time. I was told by a friend to try your Vegetable Compound. I did, and by the time I took two bottles I was beginning to get around again. I took ten bottles in all, and now I am all right again and doing my own work. I have six grown-ups to work for, so I have plenty to do. I also used Lydia E. Pinkham's Sanative Wash, and I think it is good. But I owe my health to the Vegetable Compound, and I think if more of it was used women would be better off. I would not be without it if it cost much more."—MRS. NELLIE JAMESON, 805 East Cannon Street, Hamilton, Ontario.

Do you feel broken down, nervous and weak sometimes? Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound is excellent to take at such a time. It always helps, and if taken regularly and persistently, will relieve this condition.

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FLIT spray clears your home of mosquitoes and flies. It also kills bed bugs, roaches, ants, and their eggs. Fatal to insects but harmless to mankind. Will not stain. Get Flit today.

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"The yellow can with the black band"

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