

PRESSURE MOUNTS IN SAAR BATTLE.

Racing ahead thirty miles from Belfort the first French army took the town of Mulhouse in its stride. Recapturing the offensive spirit of the Napoleonic era the newly formed French Regiments have completely surprised the enemy by their vigorous attacks. Nothing has so greatly discouraged the Germans as the military rebirth of France. On all fronts the enemy now faces the mounting strength of armies which, a year or two back, he thought he had utterly defeated. And of all victories ^{won} ~~one~~ in the hey day of German triumph that over France seemed to be complete.

The prisoners were quickly taken to compounds several miles behind the lines. It is now the turn of millions of Germans to be herded behind the barbed wire.

Further north ⁱⁿ ~~on~~ the Vosges ~~the Americans fight on the flank of the French Army. Here too,~~ despite the wet and unfavourable country, the Germans are getting no rest. ~~Eisenhower~~ ^{the} had not launched a major winter offensive, as these pictures reached England, but at many points along the four hundred mile line the Germans are harried ~~without cease~~ and given no time to re-inforce any particular sector.

(M.P.) General Winter, though by no means the warrior he once was, is able to slow down even mechanised warfare. Happily, before very long, the frost will have set in, the going will be hard again and winter will be on our side.

(Saar Battle contd)

Strasbourg is the greatest prize of the present offensive. The capital of Alsace, city of two hundred thousand people in peacetime, ~~was captured by General Le Clerc's armoured division and the American 7th Army.~~ There was a good deal of street fighting before the Germans were overcome.

At (GV) ~~FROM~~ the captured German headquarters mountains of Army Propaganda were discovered, telling the German soldiers they had only to hold on a month or two and victory would be theirs. Strasbourg cathedral has been considerably damaged by gunfire, but for the most part the city is not seriously damaged. There was a considerable haul of prisoners, most of them still bewildered by the pace of the French advance.

Two Generals were rounded up when the enemy headquarters was taken. Along with other ranks they were soon put into lorries and sent away to the compounds. The advance to Strasbourg and Mulhouse brings the right of the Allied line abreast of the Rhine. It is a swift flowing river, for centuries a natural military barrier and defended now as desperately as the Germans know how. When the Allies are across the river the shadow of defeat will darken every home in Germany.