

Photographs from Battle Front Taken by John T. McCutcheon.



**WRECK OF FORT DES SARTS AT MAUBEUGE**—The terrific destruction wrought by the German bombardment at this fortress on the Belgian-French frontier was completed by the French garrison before it capitulated, Sept. 8. Massive concrete and masonry crumbled like chalk. The 42 centimeter Krupp shells pierced every obstruction, earth, concrete, steel and masonry. Like Liege, Namur and Dinant, Maubeuge is another demonstration of the uselessness of modern fortresses against the latest siege artillery.

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**ANOTHER VIEW OF THE WRECKAGE WITHIN FORT DES SARTS AT MAUBEUGE.**



**A DESOLATED BOULEVARD NEAR MAUBEUGE**—This bare roadway was formerly a beautifully tree-lined driveway approaching Maubeuge. All the stately elms were cut down to permit a clear view for the gunners in the fortress. Only an occasional tree was left standing to mark the range.



**EFFECT OF 42 CENTIMETER (16.5 INCHES) GUN FIRE**—This hole was made by a single shot from one of the Krupp siege guns near Des Sarts, one of the modern forts defending Maubeuge. This hole is twenty feet deep and nearly forty feet across. The great shell missed the fort but tore this excavation near by.



**LUNCHING WITH THE GENERAL STAFF AT THE FRONT**—On the left of the picture in the foreground is the United States Consul Robert J. Thompson of Aix-la-Chapelle. James O'Donnell Bennett, Mr. McCutcheon and Mr. Thompson were treated as honored guests and the table cloth and wine were special frills for the occasion.



**GENERAL STAFF OF ONE OF THE GERMAN ARMIES WATCHING THE ARTILLERY DUEL**—This picture of a group of German staff officers was taken on a spot near the front along the great battle line along the Aisne river. The artillery duel was plainly visible from this point of observation, and the stench of the unburied dead between the opposing lines was distinctly noticeable. Mr. McCutcheon was not at liberty to give the names of the generals or the exact location.